

Location:

November 20, 2024

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

LCWSC Office

Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

1. RBC members to provide feedback on draft chapters
2. Katherine Amidon to draft letter to WaterSC and solicit and include feedback from Saluda RBC before sending
3. Saluda RBC to further the conversation in the future regarding Flow-ecology Blue Ridge Mountain proposals
4. DES to provide specific criteria for GW at next meeting
5. John Boyer to distribute google survey for certain recommendations to get RBC feedback

Decisions:

1. Saluda RBC Vision Statement: A resilient and sustainably managed Saluda River Basin that balances human and ecological needs. (May 2023)
2. Saluda RBC Goals: 1. To perform a review and update of the plan every 5 years at a minimum or sooner should a significant event occur requiring plan update, 2. Develop and implement an education and communication plan to promote the strategies, policies, and recommendations developed for the Saluda River Basin, and 3. Apply science-based resource management and conservation strategies that consider resource availability and allocation. (May 2023)
3. The Saluda RBC elected KC Price as Chair and Katherine Amidon as Vice Chair. (June 2023)
4. Formation of a Public Supply Water Demand projections subcommittee. (July 2023)

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda, Minutes, and Summary
- Public and Agency Comment Period
- Discuss Comments on Draft River Basin Plan Chapters 5 and 6
- Introduction to Chapter 7
- Discussion and Development of Plan Recommendations
- Begin Discussion and Development of Implementation Plan
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Meeting Summary (November 20th)

The Saluda RBC Chair, KC Price, called the November 20th meeting of the Saluda RBC to order at 10:01 AM. The nineteenth meeting of the Saluda RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Saluda RBC members and planning team, there were 33 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. KC discussed the agenda items for the meeting. The Saluda RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda. The October minutes and summary documents were approved. A public comment period was held with no formal comments received. An agency comment period was held with no formal comments received.

Joe Koon, SCDES, gave an update on WaterSC. The Saluda RBC discussed sending a letter to WaterSC which was approved by the RBC members. It will be sent ahead of the next WaterSC meeting.

John Boyer, CDM Smith, skipped ahead on the agenda so Brandon Peoples could respond to questions about the Flow-ecology proposals the Saluda RBC have discussed. The RBC decided to keep discussing the proposals in the future. John Boyer reviewed draft chapters 5 and 6 and a preview of chapter 7 of the river basin plan with the RBC members present.

The RBC then continued discussion and development of RBC plan recommendations. Discussion aimed to finish technical recommendations and move into policy, legislative, regulatory and other recommendations. The Saluda RBC discussed: groundwater resources, public education, alignment with other plans, stream gages, data usage and acquisition as technical recommendations. The RBC then discussed policy, legislative, regulatory and other recommendations. The discussion focused on a package of three recommendations packaged as one recommendation. Discussion will continue at the next meeting. John Boyer will create a google survey to receive feedback on proposed recommendations.

The RBC meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Saluda RBC will be held December 18th at the LCWSC office in Laurens. Topics for the next meeting: review and discussion of comments on draft chapters, final discussion and development of plan recommendations, and discussion and development of implementation plan.

The meeting concluded at 2:03 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 12/18/24